

Learning Object Collections

- ❑ Gateway to Educational Materials (GEM)
<http://www.thegateway.org>
- ❑ Apple's Learning Interchange (ALI)
<http://ali.apple.com/ali/resources.shtml>
- ❑ IDEAS <http://www.ideas.wisconsin.edu/>
- ❑ Wisconsin's Information Network for Successful Schools (WINSS)
http://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/sig/practices/high_2.asp
- ❑ Wisconsin Online Resource Center (Wisc-Online),
<http://wisc-online.com/>
- ❑ Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT) <http://www.merlot.org/>
- ❑ The Library of Congress (LOC) <http://loc.gov/>
- ❑ University of Wisconsin Digital Collections
<http://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections.html>
- ❑ Teaching Books - author programs/movies
<http://www.teachingbooks.net/>
- ❑ NASA <http://www.nasa.gov/home/>
- ❑ Virtual field trips <http://www.uen.org/utahlink/tours/>
- ❑ Google and other search engines

***“Just enough,
just in time,
just for you”***

Learning Objects to Enrich Your Classroom



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How do students use and want to use technology?

They use the Internet as:

- a virtual textbook and reference library,
- a virtual tutor and study shortcut,
- virtual study group,
- virtual guidance counselor, and
- virtual locker-backpack-notebook.



But, what they find in schools is...

- Educational use of the Internet is most likely to occur outside of the school without direction of teachers.
- When teachers do integrate the Internet into schoolwork, the quality of the assignments tends to be poor and uninspiring.
- And, use of the Internet is not required for use in homework.



What can we do differently?

Use learning objects



What are learning objects?

Instructional materials found on the Internet that can be used to illustrate, support, supplement or assess student learning.

They are small in size, short in duration, (2-15 minutes in length) and can take on a variety of different shapes, formats, and purposes.

Examples include:

- A single picture -- an illustration of the water cycle
- A short video clip -- a bee pollinating a flower
- Reference articles-- discussing immigration trends
- Statistical data -- analyzed to illustrate immigration trends
- First person accounts -- digitized diary entries
- Simulations -- meiosis & mitosis
- Virtual field trips -- the world is your limit
- Tutorials --grammar and mathematics

The common thread to all these instructional materials:

- They support student learning
- Are available on the Internet
- Can be used in a variety of contexts
- Can be used by multiple people in multiple locations simultaneously
- Can be accessed over and over without time or location constraints.
- Support the understanding of a concept or process
- Can be presented to an entire class but their true power comes when individual students access the materials to support their current learning needs